

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>DATE FILED: 2/1/2005</b>
<b>v.</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>CRIMINAL NO.: 05-50</b>
<b>PRINCE WILLIAMS</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>VIOLATIONS:</b>
<b>GERALD BALAN</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1951 (conspiracy to interfere</b>
<b>DARNELL PEACE</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>with interstate commerce by robbery - 1</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>count)</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1951 (interference with</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>interstate commerce by robbery - 7</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>counts)</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 924(c) (carrying and</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>using a firearm during and in relation to</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>crime of violence - 7 counts)</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) (felon in possession</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>of a firearm - 1 count)</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>18 U.S.C. § 2</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>(aiding and abetting)</b>
	<b>:</b>	<b>Notice of forfeiture</b>

**INDICTMENT**

**COUNT ONE**

**THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT:**

1. At all times relevant to this indictment, the following businesses (hereafter “the victim businesses”) were engaged in and affecting interstate commerce, providing food and drink, or goods and services, which was produced and transported from other states to Pennsylvania, to residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and out-of-state residents:

- a. R & K Groceries store located at 6400 Dicks Avenue,  
Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania (“R & K Groceries”);

- b. J & N Cold Cuts store located at 6602 Buist Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (“J & N Cold Cuts”);
- c. Pearl of the East restaurant located at 2049 Oregon Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (“Pearl of the East”);
- d. Golden Kingdom restaurant located at 7104 Elmwood Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (“Golden Kingdom”);
- e. China King restaurant located at 2501 S. 70<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (“China King”);
- f. China House #5 restaurant located at 2123 Oregon Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (“China House”); and
- g. 7-Eleven store located at 500 E. Baltimore Avenue, Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania (“7-Eleven”).

2. From on or about August 25, 2004 through on or about September 12, 2004, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS,  
GERALD BALAN,  
and  
DARNELL PEACE**

conspired and agreed together, and with others known and unknown to the grand jury, to commit robbery, which robbery would unlawfully obstruct, delay and affect commerce, and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, in that defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, GERALD BALAN, and DARNELL PEACE conspired to unlawfully take and obtain money from the person and presence of employees of the victim businesses including R & K Groceries

store, J & N Cold Cuts, The Pearl of the East restaurant, The Golden Kingdom restaurant, The China King restaurant, The China House # 5 restaurant and the 7-Eleven store against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to their person and property, all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a), 1951(b)(1) and 1951(b)(3).

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**MANNER AND MEANS**

It was part of this conspiracy that:

3. Defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, GERALD BALAN, and DARNELL PEACE planned and executed the robberies of the victim businesses.

4. In the commission of the robberies of the victim businesses, defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, GERALD BALAN, and DARNELL PEACE, and others known and unknown to the grand jury:

- a. armed themselves with firearms;
- b. usually concealed their identities by covering their faces;
- c. entered the victim businesses brandishing firearms, and then threatened to injure and kill patrons and customers to obtain money; and
- d. after obtaining the cash proceeds from the victim businesses, fled and then split the cash proceeds.

## **OVERT ACTS**

In furtherance of the conspiracy and to effect the objects of the conspiracy, defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, GERALD BALAN, and DARNELL PEACE, and others, committed the following overt acts, among others, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere:

### **The R & K Groceries Armed Robbery**

On or about August 25, 2004:

1. Defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, GERALD BALAN, and Person #1, known to the grand jury (Person # 1), drove together in a gray Pontiac to the R & K Groceries, located at 6400 Dicks Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
2. After Person #1, who was armed with a .380 caliber semiautomatic pistol, and defendant GERALD BALAN covered their faces with t-shirts to conceal their identities, they entered the R & K Groceries store.
3. At gunpoint, defendant GERALD BALAN and Person #1 demanded money from a store employee, stole approximately \$300 in cash from the cash register, and fled in a gray Pontiac driven by defendant PRINCE WILLIAMS.

### **The J & N Cold Cuts Armed Robbery**

On or about August 26, 2004:

4. Defendant PRINCE WILLIAMS and Person #1 drove together in a gray Pontiac to the J & N Cold Cuts store, located at 6602 Buist Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
5. After defendant PRINCE WILLIAMS, who was armed with a .380

caliber semiautomatic pistol, and Person #1 covered their faces with t-shirts to conceal their identities, they entered J & N Cold Cuts, demanded money from a store employee at gunpoint, stole approximately \$200 in cash from the cash register, and fled.

#### **The Pearl of the East Restaurant Armed Robbery**

On or about August 28, 2004:

6. Defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS and GERALD BALAN and Person #1 drove together in a gray Pontiac to the Pearl of the East restaurant, located at 2049 Oregon Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

7. Defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS and GERALD BALAN and Person #1 entered the Pearl of the East restaurant brandishing a gun, demanded money from a restaurant employee, stole approximately \$450 in cash from the cash register, and fled.

#### **The Golden Kingdom Restaurant Armed Robbery**

On or about August 30, 2004:

8. Defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, who was armed with a .380 caliber semiautomatic pistol, and GERALD BALAN and Person # 1 entered the Golden Kingdom restaurant, located at 7104 Elmwood Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, demanded money from a restaurant employee, ripped the drawer from the cash register, threw it onto the floor, stole approximately \$39 in cash, and fled.

#### **The China King Restaurant Armed Robbery**

On or about August 30, 2004:

9. Defendant PRINCE WILLIAMS, who was armed with a .380 semiautomatic pistol, Person # 1, and a person unknown to the grand jury drove together in a

gray Pontiac to the China King restaurant, located at 2501 S. 70<sup>th</sup> Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

10. After defendant PRINCE WILLIAMS, Person # 1, and a person unknown to the grand jury covered their faces with t-shirts to conceal their identities, they entered the China King restaurant brandishing guns, demanded money from a restaurant employee, stole approximately \$400 in cash from the cash register, a cell phone and the keys to the restaurant, and fled.

#### **The China House #5 Armed Robbery**

On or about September 7, 2004:

11. Defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, who was armed with a .380 caliber semiautomatic pistol, and GERALD BALAN, who was armed with a sawed-off shotgun, and Person #1 drove together in a gray Pontiac to the China House restaurant, located at 2123 Oregon Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

12. After defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS and GERALD BALAN covered their faces with t-shirts and other clothing to conceal their identities, they entered the restaurant at gunpoint, while Person # 1 remained with the car as a lookout.

13. Defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS and GERALD BALAN brandished their guns, demanded money from a restaurant employee, threatened to shoot the employee, then defendant WILLIAMS discharged his pistol, after which they stole approximately \$800 in cash from the cash register, and fled.

#### **The 7-Eleven Store Armed Robbery**

On or about September 12, 2004:

14. Defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, who was armed with a .380 caliber semiautomatic pistol, GERALD BALAN, who was armed with a sawed-off shotgun, and DARNELL PEACE drove together in a gray Pontiac to the 7-Eleven store, located at 500 E. Baltimore Avenue in Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania.

15. After defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, GERALD BALAN and DARNELL PEACE covered their faces with t-shirts and other clothing to conceal their identities, they entered the 7-Eleven store brandishing guns, demanded money from a store employee, stole approximately \$339 in cash from the cash register and a drop safe, and fled.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(a).

**COUNT TWO**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 1.a. of Count One of this indictment is incorporated here.
2. On or about August 25, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of

Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS  
and  
GERALD BALAN**

unlawfully obstructed, delayed and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, by robbery, in that defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS and GERALD BALAN unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted the unlawful taking and obtaining of, cash from the R & K Groceries store, located at 6400 Dicks Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the presence of employees of the R & K Groceries store and against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to the employees of the R & K Groceries store, that is, by brandishing a gun, demanding money, and threatening employees of the R & K Groceries store.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.



**COUNT THREE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES:**

On or about August 25, 2003, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of  
Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS  
and  
GERALD BALAN**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted the use and carrying of, a firearm, during and  
in relation to a crime of violence for which they may be prosecuted in a court of the United  
States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery, and interference with  
commerce by robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT FOUR**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 1.b. of Count One of this indictment is incorporated here.
2. On or about August 26, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**PRINCE WILLIAMS**

unlawfully obstructed, delayed and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, by robbery, in that defendant PRINCE WILLIAMS unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted the unlawful taking and obtaining of, cash from the J & N Cold Cuts store, located at 6602 Buist Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the presence of employees of the J & N Cold Cuts store and against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to the employees of the J & N Cold Cuts, that is, by brandishing a gun, demanding money, and threatening employees of the J & N Cold Cuts store.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT FIVE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

On or about August 26, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**PRINCE WILLIAMS**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted the use and carrying of, a firearm, during and in relation to a crime of violence for which they may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery, and interference with commerce by robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT SIX**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 1.c. of Count One of this indictment is incorporated here.
2. On or about August 28, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of

Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS  
and  
GERALD BALAN**

unlawfully obstructed, delayed and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, by robbery, in that defendants GERALD BALAN and PRINCE WILLIAMS unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted the unlawful taking and obtaining of, cash from the Pearl of the East restaurant, located at 2049 Oregon Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the presence of employees of the Pearl of the East restaurant and against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to the employees of the Pearl of the East restaurant, that is, by brandishing a gun, demanding money, and threatening employees of the Pearl of the East restaurant.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT SEVEN**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES:**

On or about August 28, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of  
Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS  
and  
GERALD BALAN**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted the use and carrying of, a firearm, during and  
in relation to a crime of violence for which they may be prosecuted in a court of the United  
States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery, and interference with  
commerce by robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT EIGHT**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 1.d. of Count One of this indictment is incorporated here.
2. On or about August 30, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of

Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS  
and  
GERALD BALAN**

unlawfully obstructed, delayed and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, by robbery, in that defendants GERALD BALAN and PRINCE WILLIAMS unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted the unlawful taking and obtaining of, cash from the Golden Kingdom restaurant, located at 7104 Elmwood Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the presence of employees of the Golden Kingdom restaurant and against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to the employees of the Golden Kingdom restaurant, that is, by brandishing a gun, demanding money, and threatening employees of the Golden Kingdom restaurant.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT NINE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES:**

On or about August 30, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of  
Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS  
and  
GERALD BALAN**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted the use and carrying of, a firearm, during and  
in relation to a crime of violence for which they may be prosecuted in a court of the United  
States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery, and interference with  
commerce by robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT TEN**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 1.e. of Count One of this indictment is incorporated here.
2. On or about August 30, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**PRINCE WILLIAMS**

unlawfully obstructed, delayed and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, by robbery, in that defendant PRINCE WILLIAMS unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted the unlawful taking and obtaining of, cash from the China King restaurant, located at 2501 S. 70<sup>th</sup> Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the presence of employees of the China King restaurant and against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to the employees of the China King restaurant, that is, by brandishing a gun, demanding money, and threatening employees of the China King restaurant.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.



**COUNT ELEVEN**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES:**

On or about August 30, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of  
Pennsylvania, defendant

**PRINCE WILLIAMS**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted the use and carrying of, a firearm, during and  
in relation to a crime of violence for which they may be prosecuted in a court of the United  
States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery, and interference with  
commerce by robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT TWELVE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 1.f. of Count One of this indictment is incorporated here.
2. On or about September 7, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of

Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS  
and  
GERALD BALAN**

unlawfully obstructed, delayed and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, by robbery, in that defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS and GERALD BALAN unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted the unlawful taking and obtaining of, cash from the China House #5 restaurant, located at 2123 Oregon Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the presence of employees of the China House #5 restaurant and against their will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to the employees of the China House #5 restaurant, that is, by brandishing and discharging a gun, demanding money, and threatening employees of the China House #5 restaurant.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT THIRTEEN**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES:**

On or about September 7, 2004, at Philadelphia, in the Eastern District of  
Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS  
and  
GERALD BALAN**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted the use and carrying of, a firearm, during and  
in relation to a crime of violence for which they may be prosecuted in a court of the United  
States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery, and interference with  
commerce by robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT FOURTEEN**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

1. Paragraph 1.g. of Count One of this indictment is incorporated here.
2. On or about September 12, 2004, at Clifton Heights, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS,  
GERALD BALAN,  
and  
DARNELL PEACE**

unlawfully obstructed, delayed and affected commerce and the movement of articles and commodities in commerce, by robbery, in that defendants PRINCE WILLIAMS, GERALD BALAN, and DARNELL PEACE unlawfully took and obtained, and aided and abetted the unlawful taking and obtaining of, cash from the 7-Eleven store, located at 500 E. Baltimore Avenue in Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, in the presence of an employee of the 7-Eleven store and against his will, by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to the employee of the 7-Eleven store, that is, by brandishing a gun, demanding money, and threatening the employee of the 7-Eleven store.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

**COUNT FIFTEEN**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES:**

On or about September 12, 2004, at Clifton Heights, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS,  
GERALD BALAN  
and  
DARNELL PEACE**

knowingly used and carried, and aided and abetted the use and carrying of, a firearm, during and in relation to a crime of violence for which they may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, that is, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery, and interference with commerce by robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951(a) and 2.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1) and 2.

**COUNT SIXTEEN**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

On or about September 12, 2004, at Clifton Heights, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, defendant

**PRINCE WILLIAMS,**

having been convicted in a court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, knowingly possessed in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce a firearm, that is, a Tanfoglio, Armi Guiseppe, Model EA 380, .380 caliber, semiautomatic pistol, serial number obliterated, loaded with 7 live rounds of ammunition.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1).

**NOTICE OF FORFEITURE**

**THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES THAT:**

As a result of the violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c) and 922(g)(1), set forth in this indictment, defendants

**PRINCE WILLIAMS,  
GERALD BALAN  
and  
DARNELL PEACE**

shall forfeit to the United States of America, the firearms and ammunition involved in the commission of these offenses, including, but not limited to:

- (1) one Tanfoglio, Armi Guiseppe, Model EA 380, .380 caliber, semiautomatic pistol, serial number obliterated, and seven live rounds of ammunition;
- (2) one Dickson, Model 1302, 12 gauge sawed-off shotgun, serial number 68823, and two live rounds of ammunition; and
- (2) one Marlin, Model 60, .22 caliber semiautomatic rifle, serial number 10358642, and three live rounds of ammunition.

All pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(d), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

**A TRUE BILL:**

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**FOREPERSON**

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**PATRICK L. MEEHAN  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**